THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government is considering formulation of social security schemes and enactment of central legislation for unorganized sector workers in consultation with various stakeholders, concerned Ministries/Departments. The details of the schemes to be implemented are yet to be finalized.

Upgradation of ITIs

4531. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
MS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the scheme to upgrade 100 ITIs into Centers of Excellence;

(b) what is the status of another 400 ITIs to be upgraded with the assistance from World Bank;

(c) what is the level and mode of involvement of private sector in upgrading these ITIs, as envisaged by industry associations; and

(d) what is the rate of placement from these ITIs at conclusion of the training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) A scheme for upgradation of 100 Government ITIs with domestic funding was approved in March, 2005. These 100 ITI were distributed in 22 States and Union Territory administrations with 75:25 funding pattern, to be shared between Central and State Governments respectively. Training in all the above ITIs has sonce been started. Central funds to the tune of Rs. 42 crore have so far been released for upgradation of these 100 ITIs.

(b) For remaining 400 Government run ITIs, the Ministry is in dialogue with the World Bank for providing financial assistance. EFC meeting for the World Bank Assisted Project, *iter-alia* upgradation of 400 ITIs was held on 8.5.2007. Meanwhile, Government of India haas identified 100 ITIs out of the above mentioned 400 ITIs in different States during 2006-07 for upgradation. The State Governments have been adivsed, as part of advance

action, to submit Insitutional Development Plans for finalising the selection of remaining 300 ITIs to be upgraded in the next three years.

(c) Industry/Industry Association in the form of Institute Management Committees (IMCs) have been involved in all aspects of trainings in these ITIs, such as identification of sectors to be taken up, development of course curriculum, and to bring all round improvement in the functioning of ITIs.

(d) The trainees of the first batch were admitted in August, 2005 and are scheduled to complete their training in July, 2007.

Survey of child labourers

4532. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been done to identify the exact number of child labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government plan to do so soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Census conducted by the Registrar General of India is the only authentic data in respect of population of child labour in the country. As per the Census 2001, the number of child labour in the country is 1.26 crore.

(c) In additon, Government proposes to conduct a national level survey to assess the number of child labour in the country.

Non-payment of Provident Fund arrears paid by companies

4533. SHRI. ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of companies are reportedly not making payment of Provident Fund arrears to their employees despite repeated reminders;